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Dr. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIAR : Is not the Hon. the Minister for Health aware that these questions are decided by the University with reference to the general policy matters and that it is the University that decides what qualification should be possessed by the Deans and Professors?

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU : I think so, Sir. (Laughter) I do not follow the exact implications of the question put and I cannot answer straightway.

Dr. A. SREENIVASAN : Only one question in respect of the post of the Director of Public Health. What are the qualifications of the Director of Public Health and the qualifications of his assistants?

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU : Qualifications are those that are required for performing the service, namely, that of the Director of Public Health and that is he must be an M.B.B.S with training in looking after public health services.

Dr. A. SREENIVASAN : Leaving the ludicrous part of it aside, I would like to know whether his assistants are better qualified academically and the Director of Public Health has had no experience in the executive line while his Assistants have that.

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU : The ludicrous part of it comes from that side and not from here. (Laughter.)

Sri MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : May I know what are the qualifications of those who serve immediately under the Director of Public Health? Are they not competent to take the place of the Director of Public Health?

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU : Yes, Sir, they can.

Rural Housing Scheme

* 82 Q.—Sri MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Electricity be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any Rural Housing Scheme has been undertaken by the Government during the Second Five-Year Plan;

(*b*) if so, the number of villages covered by this scheme;

(*c*) the amount, if any, allotted by the Central Government in this behalf; and

(*d*) whether any amount has been left unspent and, if so, the reasons therefor?

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN : (*a*) Yes, Sir. The Village Housing Projects Scheme is implemented in selected villages in certain Community Development/National Extension Service Block areas.

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(*b*) Till now 108 villages have been selected. Socio-Economic and Physical-Engineering Surveys have been completed in 124 and 81 villages, respectively, and Master Plans have been prepared for 67 villages. Loans have been actually sanctioned in 10 villages.

(*c*) A sum of Rs. 70 lakhs has been allotted by the Government of India for the Second Plan period.

(*d*) The allotment could not be utilized to any appreciable extent for the following reasons :—

The Scheme was formulated by the Government of India in October, 1957. Before it could be implemented, certain preliminaries like the setting up of Rural Housing Cell, framing of detailed rules, selection and survey of villages, drawing up of master plans, standard designs and specifications for houses had to be completed. Further, the implementation of the scheme depends mainly on the response and co-operation of the villagers. The scheme is not popular among the villagers as the maximum amount of assistance (50 per cent of the cost of construction subject to a ceiling of Rs. 1,500 per house) is too low, when compared to the 80 per cent assistance subject to a maximum of Rs. 5,000 available under the State Co-operative Housing Scheme. The Scheme does not also provide assistance for improvement of houses In these circumstances, no loans could be sanctioned in 1957–58 and 1958–59. In the current year loans amounting to Rs. 77,250 have been sanctioned up to 16th November 1959.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : While appreciating the very long reply given by the Hon. Minister cataloguing all the reasons for not putting through the schemes, may I know whether it is not a fact that out of Rs. 70 lakhs allotted to us not even Rs. 1 or 2 lakhs have been spent on the schemes?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Sir, it does not mean that we have lost all that money. We have spent the amount allotted under other housing schemes. I may inform the hon. Member that those schemes are not attractive to the Madras State because our own State Housing Schemes under the Co-operative Department are more attractive to the villagers. For instance, a villager can get 80 per cent of the value of the house and up to a maximum of Rs. 5,000 from the co-operative societies. Therefore, he does not naturally go and borrow only 50 per cent under the Rural Housing Scheme.

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM : On a point of order, Sir. The question has been addressed to the Hon. the Minister for Electricity and he is also present in the House but the answer to the question is given by the Hon. the Minister for Industries.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Because the Minister for Industries was away at the United Nations, the question was addressed to the Electricity Minister.

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SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : Could not the difficulties enumerated have been anticipated by the Government before formulating the schemes?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : The only thing is that the difficulties should have been anticipated by the Government of India. The scheme has been formulated by the Government of India on an all-India pattern but there are some States which are ahead of others and offer better facilities than what are offered under the scheme of the Government of India.

Development Blocks

* 83 *Q.*—SRI M. ETHIRAJALU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal to form Development Blocks in coastal areas primarily for the welfare of the fishermen; and

(*b*) if so, the places where the blocks are proposed to be opened?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM (on behalf of the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration) : (*a*) A proposal for the formation of coastal blocks in the districts of Kanyakumari, Ramanathapuram and Tanjore for the development of coastal villages was considered by the Government and it was dropped in view of the practical difficulties involved.

(*b*) Does not arise.

SRI K. T. KOSALAM : What is the practical difficulty, Sir?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : The State has been delimited into so many blocks under the Community Development and National Extension Service Schemes. This runs counter to that pattern. That is the difficulty.

VIDWAN T. MUTHUKANNAPPAN : செங்கல்பட்டு, தென் னாற்காடு மாவட்டங்களில் உள்ள கடற்கரையோரப் பகுதிகளிலும் பல குப்பங்கள் மிகப் பிற்போக்கான நிலையில் இருப்பதனால், அங்கும் இம்முறையைப் பயன்படுத்துவதற்கு அரசாங்கம் முன் வருமா ?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : அங்கெல்லாம் வட்டார அபிவிருத்தித் திட்டம் நடைபெறுகிறது. அந்தமாதிரி இடங்களில் மீனவருக்கென்று ஒரு வட்டாரமாகப் பிரிக்க முடியாது.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Questions are over.

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

III.—ANNOUNCEMENTS.

(1) DECISION OF THE BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have to announce to the House that at a meeting of the Business Advisory Committee of the Council held at 3-30 p.m. on the 9th March 1960, it has been decided that the